[27th February 1928

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) No orders have been issued prohibiting the payment of travelling allowance to representatives of teacher-managers for attending the meetings of District Educational Councils.

Enquiry into the position of Catholic schools in the Presidency.

* 1532 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to the answer to my question No. 1068 answered on 2nd November 1927, will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government have come to any, and if so what, conclusion in regard to the recommendations of the special officer appointed to enquire into the position of Catholic schools in the Presidency ; and

(*b*) whether Government will be pleased to place the special officer's recommendations before the House or communicate them to the Catholic church authorities or Catholic associations or committees concerned for remarks ?

A.—(*a*) The Government have not yet come to any conclusion.

(*b*) The Government are unable to publish the recommendations at present.

Teaching of subjects other than English in the vernacular of the locality.

* 1533 *Q.*—The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether there is a proposal before the Government to teach all subjects other than English in the vernacular of the locality in the high school classes ?

A.—There is no such proposal before Government. The Department of Public Instruction has already circularized that managers of schools are at liberty to choose either English or vernacular as the medium of instruction in Forms IV, V and VI of secondary schools. The department has, however, recommended that approximately half of the time devoted to instruction, including the periods devoted to the teaching of English, should be given to teaching through English and the other half through the vernacular.

Introduction of amending Bills to the Madras Local Boards Act and the Madras Elementary Education Act.

* 1534 *Q.*—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether during the year 1928 any comprehensive amending Bills to the Madras Local Boards Act of 1920, and the Madras Elementary Education Act of 1920, will be introduced into the Council ; and

(*b*) if so, the probable month when they will be introduced ; and the general lines on which the amendments are drafted ?.

A.—(*a*) It is likely that the Bills to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, will be introduced in 1928.